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A. De Cock's article on "Rechtshandelingen bij de Kinderen" (Volkskunde, vol. xvi. 1904, 54-59) treats of "rules of exchange." Many of the formulæ in use are recorded, from various sections of Belgium, with comparative citations.

RADIUM AND MYSTICISM.—In the "Revue Scientifique" (vol. i. v^e s. 1904, p. 541) is a brief résumé of an article by Prof. Enrico Morselli, which appeared in the January-February number of the "Revista ligure di scienze, lettere, ed arti." The author discusses the renascence of mysticism and spiritualism in connection with the discovery and public knowledge of radium and its properties. Every newly found element has now its "folklore."

RHUS-POISONING.—The belief exists in certain parts of the United States that full-blood American Indians are immune from *Rhus* poisoning, and that eating a leaf of the poison ivy is a preventative against poisoning by that plant. See "The American Botanist," March, 1903; "The Atlantic Slope Naturalist," March-April, 1903.

SPELLING EXERCISE.—Mrs. H. E. G. Brandt, of Clinton, N. Y., sends the following exercise in spelling as "in use in the schools of Central New York less than one hundred years ago. My mother and her brothers and sisters, who must have been in school from 1815-1830, all had it at their tongues' end. The children were required to stand in rows, and spell it by syllables in unison :—

Abial-James-Rāchel-me-dī me-dū.

Flom-däffy-down dilly-ma dōit.

Vig-enteen-Vāg-enteen.

Vēr ny-plan tīg o ny.

Hōny-rōny-jōny.

*Honorī-fī cā bali ti-tū-di nī letā te būsque.

* The rhythm here is uncertain.

See-hēe-hōō-dra-hēn pēnse-brāss, clipper, nípper-nāss.

Mēni-mōra-clāpper-willer.

Ōver-vēntür-tūma-rīpper rāt-clāp.

TABOOS OF TALE-TELLING (vol. xiii. p. 146).—Among the Sulka of German New Guinea, as described by Rascher, in the "Archiv für Anthropologie" (vol. i. n. s. 1903-1904, p. 228), tales and legends are told only in the dark or at night. The reason given is that "if they were told during the daytime, the narrators would be struck dead by lightning."

A. F. C.